

THE
Life, Character, and Death
OF
Judas Iscariot,

That Traytor who betray'd our Blessed
LORD and SAVIOUR

JESUS CHRIST.

Giving a Full and True

ACCOUNT

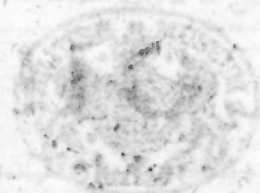
Of the whole Course
Of that False Disciple's Actions from
his Birth, to his accursed and untimely
Death.

The Third Edition.

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The Life and Death of *Judas Iscariot*.

Judas Iscariot was descended from one *Simon* a Tanner, living near *Joppa*, a noted Sea-port Town in *Palestine*, now in possession of the barbarous and inhumane Turks. Before his good and pious Mother, for he came of Virtuous Parents, brought him into the World, being one Night very restless, she at last fell to sleep, and dream'd that the Child she then went with, would prove to her great Grief and Sorrow, both a Thief and a Murderer: So awaking very much affrighted, she grew thereupon very melancholly; and being greatly disturb'd in Mind, she was studying and contriving Night and Day what way she might prevent the *Odium* and *Scandal* which seemed to fall upon her Family by the Production of this Birth. At length
her

her *Sorrow* increasing more and more upon her, insomuch that her Husband took Notice of her Uneasiness he press'd her to tell him the Occasion of it; so with much Perswasion she at last acquainted him with the Cause of her Grief, and the Means which she designed to prevent it, but he endeavour'd all he could to alienate her heart from the *barbarous* thought of laying violent Hands upon the Infant when it was born, telling her, that perhaps the Almighty Disposer of the World who ruleth all Things visible and invisible, might so order Matters that the Child might die young, or take it away before it was grown up, with several Accidents which Providence unknown to her and him might bring about to alter those unhappy Effects which her frightful Dream presaged Ominous: So being pretty well satisfied with these Sayings of her Husband, she grew somewhat eased in her Mind.

About a Week after this Discovery to her Husband, she fell in Travail; and having a very hard Labour of it, she was not expected to go through the same without losing her Life; but by Prayers made for her safe Delivery, she was at last

last, through God's great Mercy, safely deliver'd of a lovely Boy; so very beautiful was the Child, that all his Kinsfolks and Friends were mightily pleased and contented with the Sight of so handsome an Infant; and all the Neighbours came far and near to see it. But it happen'd that he had a strange sort of a Mark upon his left side; for under his Breast, *as several Authors writes*, was a *Cross*, a *Gallows*, *Money* and a *Daggers*, which did not only cause Wonder and Admiration in all that beheld it, but it made his Mother long the more to know what it portended, so that she resolv'd to her self to go to a Magician as soon as she went abroad again.

At eight Days old the Child was Circumcised by the Name of *Judas*, and at his Circumcision there was a vast Number of Spectators to see the Ceremony perform'd; moreover, because it was the first Child she ever lay in with, there was a most Noble Feast prepared for all his Friends and Relations, and after the Entertainment, which lasted four Days, was over, his Mother then began to think on the former Dream, resolving when she went abroad, to consult a Magician upon the same, also on the Marks which the Child brought into the World with

with it, and to prevent, if possible, the Shame and Disgrace which she fear'd would fall upon her Family through its Birth. So the time of her Purification being come, she was brought to the House of the Lord, where Praises and Thanksgiving being offer'd up to the Almighty for her safe Deliverance from her late Danges of Child-bearing, all which Holy Offices being perform'd as usual in the Jewish Church, she returned Home; and keeping her former Resolution, she made known her Intent of going to a Magician to a Relation whom she could confide, and accordingly sent her to enquire of him, what might be the most convenient Time for coming to him in Privacy; so the Magician appointed the Time when she might consult with him, she disguised herself to give him a Visit, after this manner.

The Day being come, her Relation waits on her, and dressing her self in a Veil made of cunning curious Work, so that none could perceive her Face, or know who he was, away they went to the Magician's House; where revealing her Dream, and telling with what Mark her Child was born, he called for Pen, Ink and Paper, with which calculating a
Scheme

Scheme of *Judas's* Nativity, and having finish'd it, he shook his Head and seem'd to change his Countenance to the Symptoms of a very sorrowful Aspect. This made the Mother formize what he had to declare was not tending to good News however being impatient to know the Event, she urged him the more importunately to give his Judgment on the Childs Nativity, be it good or bad. Hereupon the Magician tells her, that as she had dreamt, so it would prove, for your Child will be both a Thief and a Murderer, but what is worse, it is the Decree of Heaven that he shall betray the Lord of Life, who as yet is not revealed to us, in selling his *Blood* for a very small Price, for which most wicked Fact, he will lay violent Hands on himself, and so die an unnatural Death. At this she fell into a *Swoon*, and much ado they had to fetch her to Life again, but when she was come to herself, after shedding many tears, she with her Relation and the Magician consulted in what manner they might be out of the hearing or seeing those Disasters which were likely to ensue, not only to the great Sorrow and Trouble of herself, but also to the perpetual Disgrace of all her Family.

Many

Many were the Stratagems and Contrivances which they ponder'd for the Destruction of young *Judas*, among which this was one that the Mother thought upon, that he should have a little Bark made, and so set him floating away on the Sea. They liked her Project very well, but how to get it secretly made and conveyed to her, was the dubious Matter in Question. At last the Magician undertook to have a thing made like what she proposed, and to convey it to her without any Suspicion: so leaving the Result to his Management and Contrivance, they took their Leave of each other, and parted for that time.

The Magician to perform his Promise sends for one *ROTA* a cunning Artift in such Affairs, and telling him what manner of Bark he wanted him to make, the Artificer with his Pencil draws out a Sketch or Figure of what he intimated, which being, *correspondent* to the Magicians Design and Intention, for the Form of the Watry Mansions was to be in the shape of a Shell. *Rota* took the Draft thereof along with him, and went about it with all speed.

The Bark, or rather Box as one may call

call it, being finisht in about a Week's Time, for the Man was forc'd to work on it by Stealth, to avoid all Suspensions, he brought it home to the Magician, who satisfy'd him to his own Content. Then sending Notice thereof to *Judas's* Mother's Kinswoman, she brought her in the same Disguise as before to see it; and very well pleased she was with the Contrivance thereof, for so artificially was it made, that no Rain nor Water could penetrate it, and a very pretty Place was made to lay the Child at length in a little Bed, where its little, tender Arms and Legs being securely, lastly, he could not roul out, neither one way or the other.

Now a Debate arose how the Child should be brought out of the House, without the Knowledge of the Father, or Maids that waited on it; this final Consultation held a long while; but at length it was agreed upon, that the Kinswoman should take the Child away under her Veil, for it being customary for the Jewish Women to wear Veils, it gave no Suspicion of going to the House in that Habit; but as the Father intirely loved the Child, and fearing he would soon miss it, as visiting it very often in
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the Day, it was further concluded among them, that if he wanted to see it, they would feign the Child sick, so could not be brought out of its Chamber, and that furthermore the Servants that attended it being under the Mothers Command, she could for her Favour do what she pleas'd with them to Rife the Matter.

But after this Conclusion, there arose by and by another Dispute, which almost frustrated their other Designs & Projects, which was this; they were almost put to a Non-plus how they should prevent the Knowledgn of the Loss of the Child to the Father, because it could not be supposed that it was always sick; so to make this Circumstance the most feasible, it was resolv'd upon to get some Body's dead Child to carry off their Intrigue and till such a Child could be procur'd, it was to be reported to the Father, that young *Judas* was sometimes better, and sometimes worse, till they had accomplished their Designs.

The next Day the Kinswoman, as it was order'd before, came to see her, and then the Child was to fall sick, and to be carried up Stairs into another Chamber; then the Mistress calling her Maids together,

ther, she took them one by one into a private Room, and enjoyn'd them severally to secrecy, with fair Promises, and a piece of Money too in the Bargain, which they having all promised, then the Husband, when he came home was to be made sensible of the Childs Illness; and in order thereto the Childs Mother was to put on dejected Looks, a sad Countenance, and great Sorrow, by shedding a multiplicity of Tears, as well knowing her fond Husband would soon enquire the cause of her Discontent,

Accordingly her Husband returning home in the Evening, and finding his Wife and Servants all in a melancholly Disposition, his Wifes Eye-lids being most sadly swell'd with weeping, he asked her the Reason of it, then with a seeming Grief and Tears in her Eyes, tells him, that her dear Child was so very ill, that she was forced to carry it up Stairs to keep him quiet, and free from the Noise of the Streets. Her Husband could not rest but up he must go see it; and the Maids to make it more feasible, they pinched the Child, which set it a crying, and put it into such Pain, that when he came up to behold it, he was perswaded that it was out of Order, and at last by the Intreaty

treaty of his Wife, he went down and left it, with a special Charge to his Maids to take care of it.

Next Day her Relation putting on her Veil, comes to her House, in order to carry the Child to the Magician's, and when she had brought it there, about an Hour after the Mother came in her Disguise, as before, and there they try'd the Child in the said Bark, which fitted him very well; then there was Cloaths provided suitable to the condition it was like to undergo, and an upper Garment made of Skin, all over Oyl'd, to preserve him from wetting, in case any Rain or Sea-Water soaked through the Bark; then it came into the Mothers Head to know how as strange People might tell the Child's Name, if kind Fate should drive the Bark to some Remote Country; hereupon it was ordered that his Name of *Judas* should be inscribed on Parchment, and ty'd round his Neck, which was accordingly done, and all things being in a readiness to send him to seek his Fortune so young, his Mother taking her last Farewel of her dear Baby, kissing it over and over, the Tears trickled down her Cheeks apace; withal crying out, *Oh, What distressed Misery is come upon me,*

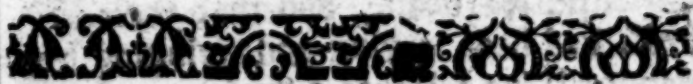
me, that I must thus part with my poor innocent Infant at last for a silly Dream O that it had never been born, or that I had died at the Birth of it, rather than to be separated from my poor Infant. What Dangers must it be exposed to? It may be sunk to the bottom of the Sea cast upon some desolate Island, where there is no People to take care of it, cast upon some Rock where it may be dashed to pieces or devoured by some wild Beast, monstrous Fish or ravenous Vulture. And must this sweet, harmless Babe smiling in the Face of me who is going to be so barbarous to it, undergo all these Casualties and Miseries for a foolish Dream, I say? Alas, it wracks my Soul to think what my pretty Infant must suffer for my whimsical Conceit of believing ill Dreams to be Ominous. But above all how shall I excuse this barbarous, base and treacherous Action to my dear loving Husband who tenders the Child as the very Apple of his Eye? Did he know what I have done, he would never be reconciled to me more. Thus with these and a great many more sorrowful Expostulations upon the parting with her dear Child, she fell into a Swoon at the very thoughts of it.

The Magician and her Relation were all this while in a great Surmize and
Ago.

Agony at her passionate Expressions, and could not likewise forbear shedding tears, but at the sight of her present Condition they ran to her Assistance, and in some short time brought her to her self again. And after she was pretty well recovered her Relation and the Magician very much comforting of her, withal telling her, that as the Child, when it grows up, will be both a Thief and a Murderer, and moreover lay violent Hands upon himself, to the utter Disgrace of her and her Family, she must therefore stand to her former Resolution, or else undergo the Shame and Infamy that must certainly brand her Generation for ever, in case she permitted the Child to live.

At this Discourse she seem'd somewhat satisfy'd, and at last consented to its imbarking; so the Magicians House standing near the Sea-side, they had but a small Walk thither; but the Mother beginning again to take compassion on her Infant with mournful Expressions and shedding of Tears, the Magician speaking somewhat passionately to her, cry'd, Are you bewitch'd? What would you have the whole Matter discover'd to the World, and endanger our Lives? If you
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are not minded to go through with the Design, I'll e'n go home again. Then going back to his own House, he was resolved to leave her to do as she pleased with the Child; but by the Kinswoman perswading her to call him back again, she orders them to put to Sea, for she could not see the Action done herself, so going forward to the Magicians House, her Confin and the Magician threw the little Bark, wherein the Child was inclosed, into the Sea, which a strong Tide carrying it swiftly away, it was soon out of sight, and then they went home to tell the Mother what they had done.



¶ When



VWhen she had receiv'd the fatal News
 she took her leave of the Magician and
 her Kinswoman, and returned home,
 where she found her Maids with heavy
 Hearts, attending her Coming, with a
 longing Expectation of hearing what she
 had done in the Matter, and having de-
 clared all she knew, and wept a little,
 they strove all they could to comfort her
 and told her they had got a dead Child of
 a Neighbours of theirs, and had stript it
 and laid it out, as is usual in Funeral Ca-
 ses, so going up to see it, it seemed unto
 her, not to be unlike her own, which
 pleased her not a little; and her Husband
 coming home, and finding her all bath'd
 in Tears again, but yet loath to ask her
 the Reason of her being so disconsolate,
 he enquired of the Maids what was the
 matter with his VVife. They told him
 the Child was dead, and that their Mi-
 stress had been crying and wringing her
 Hands till she fell into a Swoon; there-
 fore Sir, said the Maids, we do advise
 you to bury it as private, and as soon as
 you can, that our Mistress may not be
 again troubled at the sight of it.

According

Accordingly, taking their Advice, he has it that Night privately carried to a Relations House, from whence, in a Day or two's Time it was decently interr'd; and thus ended the *Catastrophe* of his supposed Son *Judas*, which sorely grieved him to the very Heart, but as the Stroke of Destiny cannot be helped, he thought the Lord's Will must be done, and so contented himself as well as he could.

But now let's see what is become of young *Judas* indeed. It happening that as the Bark was driving along the Coast called *Iscaiot*, where there was a mighty Rock, on which *Theophilus*, the King of that great Country, used to recreate himself, in seeing the Ships pass too and fro, he at last espy'd at a Distance this little Bark or Boat wherein *Judas* was turn'd adrift, whereupon ordering some of his Servants to put a Boat out presently, they came up to the Bark and brought it to the King, who causing it to be opened, they found the Babe alive with this Inscription on his Neck, *My Name is Judas*.

The King perceiving it to be a very fine Child, commanded him to be brought to his Court, and then called him *Iscaiot* because he was found floating on that Coast which was so named. The King was well pleased with him, and took all

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the tender Care imaginable of him, even using him as if he was own Child, ingiving him good Education and Learning; and as he grew up, he was not only Company for the best of the Gentry, but also a Play-fellow for the Kings Son; and coming to Mans Estate, he was made one of the Kings Council, besides having other great Dignities and Offices bestowed upon him.

But in process of Time the King's Son and this *Judas Iscariot* being abroad a merry-making, they happen'd to have a Quarrel which grew to such a Height, that they fought, and in the Rencounter he had the Misfortune to kill the young Prince. Upon this unfortunate Mischance he disguised himself, in order to facilitate his Escape; and for fear of losing his Life he was forced to take upon him the mean Quality of a Servant; but being afterwards out of Service, happen'd to come to *Joppa*, the Place of his Nativity, tho' unknown to him, he was there received as a Servant again in a Gentlemans House and behaved himself very well.

But whilst he was there, his Mistress walking out to take the Air, saw some very fine Fruit in a Garden, and being with
Child,

Child she long'd for some; so giving *Judas* Money when she came home to go & buy some of the said Fruit, he being of a covetous Temper and disposed to keep the Money, he attempted to steal the Fruit, but going over the Pales, the Man of the House, who was his Father, espying him he endeavoured to oppose him. So a Combat arising betwixt the Father and the Son, *Judas* killed him, and was forced to make his Escape a second Time.

About a Year or two after he came thither again in Disguise, and finding he was not known, he resided in quiet; and being a very handsome young Man, his own Mother, not knowing him to be her Son, fell in Love with him, and in a very short time married him.

But after he had lived with her some time, she espied the Marks before mentioned, which struck Admiration in her, for by those Marks it must needs be her own Child, whereupon she examined him from whence he came, so he giving her as good an Account as he was capable of, she from his Words gather'd so much which confirmed her Supposition, that from that very Time she made a Resolution

tion never to be Carnally concerned with him again.

After this, *Judas* hearing of the Fame of our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ, and having a Remorse of Conscience for what Wickedness he had done in his Life-time but more particularly for the two Murders, he, by his Mothers Perswasion of desiring him to take up and amend, follow'd our Saviour, and in process of time became one of his Apostles.

For it happening that Jesus came that way, *Judas* seeing many of his Miracles, and hearing what he preached, he mightily admired his Doctrine, and was so Zealous a Professor, that our Saviour admired and chose him for one of his Apostles.

And when our Saviour had finished the Work, he Instituted the Divine Supper, and sat down with them, and knowing what *Judas* had done, he said, *Verily one of you shall betray me.*

At which Words the Apostles were very sorrowful, and began every one to say to him, Lord, is it I? He reply'd, He that

that dippeth his Hand with me in the Dish shall betray me, but woe unto that Man, it had been better he had not been born.

Then *Judas* said, Master, is it I? *Jesus* answered, Thou hast said it. And then *Judas* had no sooner received the Sop, but the Devil entered into him, and he left our Saviour and Disciples, and went to the Jews, with whom he bargained to betray his Lord and Master for thirty pieces of Silver, withal telling them, that he whom he kissed was he whom they were to take.

So our Saviour shortly after going into the Garden of *Gethsemane* to Pray, after he had done, being exceeding afflicted with Grief, he found his Disciples asleep, and coming thrice to awake them, with these importunate Words, What, could not you watch with me one Hour? He had no sooner done speaking to them the last time, but *Judas* appear'd at the Head of a great Number of People, arm'd with Clubs and Staves, boldly approaching our Saviour, treacherously kist him, saying, Hail Master.

Our

Our Lord reply'd, Dost thou betray
 with a Kiss? And then went to meet those
 who came to take him, asking them whom
 they sought? with so powerful a Voice,
 as made them fall to the Ground. But ne-
 vertheless he surrendred himself to those
 wicked Peoples Power, which God had
 given them. And although St. Peter drew
 his Sword and cut off the Ear of *Malchus*
 the High-Priests Servant, yet so far was
 our Saviour from making any Resistance,
 that he instantly healed the Wound, and
 reprehended the Apostle.

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